

WORKSHEET

National Clean Sediment Strategy Discussion Points

Wetlands

Overview of National Sediment Strategy			
#	Statement	Agree	Disagree
1	EPA should develop sediment criteria on a regional, rather than a national, basis.	×	×
2	EPA should develop different sediment criteria for different waterbody types (e.g., lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters).	×	×
3	Unlike other criteria guidance that EPA has developed, EPA should express sediment criteria guidance as numeric ranges, reflecting a menu of different values based on the waterbody type and the region of the country in which the water is located.	×	×
4	EPA should prepare four separate sediment criteria guidance documents for the four waterbody types (lakes, rivers, wetlands, and coastal waters).	×	×
5	EPA should develop its own set of sediment target ranges based on geographic region, waterbody type, and designated uses.	×	×
6	EPA should use existing state databases of monitoring information to develop these sediment criteria ranges.	×	×
7	EPA should supplement existing state databases with new regional case studies and demonstration projects.	×	×

Overview of National Sediment Strategy			
#	Statement	Agree	Disagree
8	EPA should encourage States and Tribes to use the guidance documents and sediment target ranges as a guide in developing and adopting numeric levels as part of sediment water quality standards.	×	×
9	Upon publication of all the sediment criteria guidance documents, EPA should require all States and Tribes to adopt and implement numerical sediment criteria into their water quality standards within three years.	×	×
10	EPA should require States and Tribes to select a single value within the range as their water quality criterion (where data are sufficient).	×	×
11	States should have adopted sediment criteria that support State designated uses by the end of 200X. ???	×	×
12	If EPA disapproves the new standard submitted by a State or Tribe (because EPA determines that it is not scientifically defensible), or if EPA determines that a new or revised clean sediment standard is necessary for a State or Tribe (because EPA determines that the State or Tribe has not demonstrated reasonable progress toward developing numerical sediment standards), EPA should initiate rulemaking to promulgate sediment criteria values that will support the designated use of the waterbody and are appropriate to the region and waterbody types.	×	×

Overview of National Sediment Strategy			
#	Statement	Agree	Disagree
13	EPA should establish Regional Sediment Teams to help implement the National Strategy. Each Team should include a coordinator from each Region. The Regional Coordinator will foster the development and implementation of State projects, databases, clean sediment criteria and standards, and the award of financial assistance to States and Tribes to support these endeavors.	×	×

<i>The Key Elements of the Strategy</i>			
#	Statement	Agree	Disagree
1	One well-defined spatial framework which can be used to define a region for sediment assessment is the "ecoregion" system developed by James Omernik of the EPA Corvallis, Oregon laboratory.	×	×
2	The guidance manuals should include discussions on the following:		
2a	Sediment indicators	×	×
2b	Suggested target ranges organized by geographic region, waterbody type, and designated uses	×	×
2c	Sampling and analytic techniques	×	×
2d	Implementation of abatement practices	×	×
3	The EPA National Sediment Team should be composed of representatives from the following:		
3a	EPA Office of Water	×	×
3b	A Coordinator for each EPA Region	×	×
3c	3-5 State/Tribal representatives	×	×
3d	Representatives of other Federal Agencies	×	×
4	Each Region Sediment Team should be composed of representatives from the following:		

<i>The Key Elements of the Strategy</i>			
#	Statement	Agree	Disagree
4a	1 Regional Coordinator	×	×
4b	1 Office of Water representative		
4c	1 State Representative from each State in the Region	×	×
4d	Other Federal/State/Local representatives as needed	×	×

Technical Guidance Document – Wetlands			
#	Statement	Agree	Disagree
1	The guidance should emphasize watershed-scale assessments and management approaches.	×	×
2	The guidance should include case histories and descriptions of demonstration projects.	×	×
3	Sediment surveys should address both spatial and temporal variability including seasonality and in some instances variation over the course of a day.	×	×
4	Some of the parameters or indicators to consider for wetlands include:		
4a	Early warning indicators (e.g., land use changes, changes in hydrology)	×	×
4b	Attached microbial community	×	×
4c	Macroinvertebrates	×	×
5	The following systems of wetland classification might be useful for selecting and comparing wetlands:		
5a	Cowardin et al. (1979) developed a hierarchical system of wetland classification based largely on the structure of the plant community.	×	×
5b	Brinson (1993) developed a hydrogeomorphic framework for classifying wetlands based on a wetland's landscape position, source of water, and hydrodynamics.	×	×

Modeling, Data Storage, and Data Processing – Wetlands			
#	Statement	Agree	Disagree
1	An element of each guidance document should be a convenient desktop, PC-based data storage program.	×	×
2	The use of a standard PC-based data storage program will enhance data assessment and promote coordinated interstate surveys and data sharing.	×	×
3	EPA should develop a nationwide database of sediment-related monitoring data for wetlands.	×	×
4	Existing models for assessing sediment loading to wetlands are sufficient.	×	×
5	Existing models for assessing the impact of sediment loading on wetlands are sufficient.	×	×
6	If existing models are not sufficient, emphasis should be placed on developing new models (rather than enhancing existing models).	×	×

Management and Evaluation – Wetlands			
#	Statement	Agree	Disagree
1	The following best management options should be considered for wetlands:		
1a	Wetland protection and restoration— Preserve and restore wetlands through the implementation of voluntary and regulatory programs.	×	×
1b	Vegetative buffer zones— Preserve or reestablish natural, indigenous vegetation (ground cover, shrubs, trees) as buffer zones adjacent to wetlands to intercept sediment runoff before the runoff reaches the wetland.	×	×
1c	Watershed land use changes— Identify critical land loading sources and promote changes of these land practices. Examples of changes that could be made include the implementation of conservation farming techniques; the construction of runoff diversions and detentions, filter strips, and vegetated drainage ways; the implementation of forestry BMPs; the implementation of controls on urbanization and industrial development; and the upgrading of on-site and municipal wastewater treatment systems.	×	×
1d	Land use planning— Protect wetlands by limiting amounts of impervious surfaces, limiting development near waterbodies or steep slopes, and minimizing discharges from storm water, sewer, and septic systems.	×	×
1e	Protect and restore streams entering wetland— Stabilize stream channels and establish riparian buffers.	×	×

Research Needs – Wetlands
Statement
The following research needs should be addressed for wetlands: